**Summer 2025 Announcement**

*Saint Benedict Youth Ministry – Middle School*

This summer, from July 21 to July 26, St. Benedict’s Middle School Youth Group will be traveling to the mountains of Georgia to spend the week at Life Teen’s Camp Hidden Lake. This is an immersive opportunity for each middle schooler to grow in their faith personally, as well as to build the parish community of middle schoolers striving for holiness.

Camp Hidden Lake is a week-long experience of living the faith in an intense new way for middle schoolers. There will be opportunities for confession every day, Mass every day, Eucharistic Adoration, and many other forms of prayer, alongside awesome outdoor activities such as ropes courses and swimming in the lake. Your teen will encounter Jesus Christ powerfully and personally, while having the adventures of summer camp throughout the day. Additionally, Camp Hidden Lake is committed to building the parish community throughout the week too. The campers will get to participate in team building activities within groups from their parish, as well as small groups, and nightly time with their parish, so that the parish is built through their experience in the week, and ultimately, they will come to see their parish community as home.

Camp Hidden Lake is owned and operated by a Catholic Non-profit called Life Teen. Life Teen is movement within the Roman Catholic Church, built on the pillars of Eucharistic devotion and the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Life Teen seeks to empower teens to embrace the Catholic Faith with the fullness of the Sacraments, and to facilitate relationship with Jesus Christ. For more information on Life Teen or Camp Hidden Lake please visit [www.lifeteen.com](http://www.lifeteen.com) or reach out to [thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org](mailto:thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org).

The current estimated cost is around $650 per child. This cost includes the price to attend camp for the week, as well as lodging, food, and transportation costs. This price will decrease given the success of fundraising and other initiatives to help ensure that all who want to go are able to. More information regarding this will follow. We will be fundraising to help offset this cost, as well offering discounts for multiple child families, families who can offer assistance with travel, and other opportunities. Please visit: <https://forms.gle/bQ6DtB2utK6Lxowu9> to submit the deposit and reserve your spot. If you have any questions about this, please reach out to [thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org](mailto:thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org).

We never want cost to be an unmanageable burden on families, however we are required to ask families to cover some portion of the cost due to the price of the experience. If you are unable to pay the full price, please reach out to [thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org](mailto:thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org), and we will be happy to work with you to find a way to make this trip a reality for your middle schooler.

I hope you will all be able to join us on this wonderful adventure, and to see the great benefits it will have in the spiritual life of your middle schooler. There will be limited spots available so be sure to secure yours right away! There will be an information meeting with the complete schedule and details at a later date. Please reach out to Trevor Hamilton at [thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org](mailto:thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org) with any other questions!

In Christ,

Trevor Hamilton

Associate Director of Evangelization and Catechesis

Saint Benedict Catholic Church, Richmond VA